



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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Contact Don Ledford, Public Affairs • (816) 426-4220 • 400 East Ninth Street, Room 5510 • Kansas City, MO 64106

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**DECEMBER 10, 2002**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **CALIFORNIA MAN CONVICTED IN AMTRAK DELIVERY OF ECSTASY**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a California man was convicted by a federal jury today for his role in a conspiracy to distribute ecstasy across the country. The investigation that led to the defendant's arrest was launched when Kansas City police officers searched an Amtrak train in Kansas City.

**Ilan Bronfman**, 26, of California, was found guilty this afternoon of one count of conspiring with others to distribute ecstasy.

Following **Bronfman's** trial, a U.S. District Court jury in Kansas City deliberated about 35 minutes before returning the guilty verdict to U.S. District Judge Scott O. Wright, ending a trial that began December 9, 2002.

Graves explained that officers in the Kansas City, Mo. Police Department's drug interdiction squad interviewed a passenger aboard the Amtrak train at the station at 2200 Main, Kansas City on April 30, 2002. Based on that interview, the officers utilized Brooke, a Labrador retriever K-9, to conduct a canine sniff of an American Tourister bag belonging to the passenger. After receiving a search warrant based on the K-9's alert, Graves said, officers discovered ecstasy tablets hidden in two Pepperidge Farm Chocolate Chunk Big Cookie bags.

According to Graves, the passenger told police interviewers that he was traveling from Los Angeles, California, to Baltimore, Maryland, to deliver 6,000 ecstasy tablets for **Bronfman**. On a previous trip, the courier said, he delivered 3,000 ecstasy tablets. He agreed to make the delivery, under law enforcement control, and after delivering the drugs returned to Los Angeles. He then participated in the delivery of the money for the ecstasy, Graves said, while monitored by law enforcement officials. He then notified **Bronfman** that he had received the money, and he made arrangements for **Bronfman** to pick up the money and to pay him.

**Bronfman** was arrested when he arrived to pick up the money.

As a result of his conviction today, **Bronfman** could be subject to a sentence up to 20 years in prison without parole. The sentence will be determined according to the United States Sentencing Guidelines. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled sometime after the completion of a presentence investigation by the U.S. Probation Office.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Charles E. Ambrose. It was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, with assistance from the Kansas City, Mo. Police Department; the Baltimore County, Maryland Police Department and the Los Angeles County, California Police Department.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at  
[www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow)